

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

~~PROPRIETARY~~ Patent Application of  
Naoki Hashiguchi  
Application No.: 10/562,054  
Filing Date: December 23, 2005  
Title: ELEVATOR APPARATUS

Group Art Unit: 3654  
Examiner: STEFAN KRUEER  
Confirmation No.: 4344

## STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant appreciates the courtesy extended to Applicant's representative during May 7, 2008 interview. The substance of the discussion is incorporated into the follow remarks.

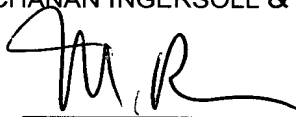
Claim 9 recites, in combination with other claimed features, a wall portion is provided with a recess, the recess including a first recess provided in a first side face, and a second recess provided in a second side face. The first recess and the second recess project into an interior of a car. A car guide shoe is mounted on the car for engaging with a car guide rail. The car guide shoe is at least partially disposed in the recess. Such a feature encompasses Applicant's exemplary embodiment as illustrated in Fig. 2 wherein recesses 7a, 7b are formed in cage 6. Car guide shoes 20a, 20b are at least partially disposed in the recess 7a, 7b. See also Applicant's as-filed specification at the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 9.

Masumoto does not disclose a first recess and a second recess projecting into an interior of the car. Instead, Masumoto discloses reinforcing members 25 which project from the outer surface of the sidewalls of cab 22 increasing a width dimension of the cab. The sidewalls of the cab have flat inner surfaces. Thus, Masumoto does not disclose a first recess and a second recess that project into an interior of the car as in Applicant's claim 9.

The Office Action recognizes that the Masumoto does not disclose a guide shoe at least partially disposed in the recess. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action's assertion that Tomaseti overcomes the deficiencies of Masumoto. Tomaseti discloses back wall member 2, an opposite or second side wall 3 including a first narrow side wall member 5 and a second narrow side wall member 7. The wall members are secured to a vertical supporting frame member 8. The guide shoe 15 is disposed below each arresting device 21 at the lower end of the vertical supporting frame member 8. Thus, Tomaseti does not disclose a guide shoe partially disposed in a recess that is formed in a wall portion as in Applicants' claim 9.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 19, 2008

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